



AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS: None

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The examiner's extensive review of the references and claims is appreciated. The amendments to the claims include changes made of an editorial nature which should not be construed to limit the claimed invention, but the limitation relating to the quiesce wait state is a limitation made to distinguish the invention from the art put together without justification in the first rejection. Reconsideration of the application in light of these amended claims is requested.

As indicated in the description of the background of the art, there was no way to recalibrate prior interfaces once an interface was up and running. This is because sending calibration patterns across the interface would interfere with system operations. Also, cumulative degradations could eventually cause a system failure. Nothing in the art recognized the deficiencies and its cause.

The claim includes the limitation "SMP computer system with a system quiesce operation having a source-synchronous, pipelined, self-calibrating bus interface" but the primary reference does not deal with an SMP source-synchronous, pipelined, self-calibrating interface, but rather the clock timing of a memory chip. The blocking of input and output data at the interface in the primary reference is locally generated by the interface controls when clocks are not synchronized. In an SMP system, unlike atomic memory operations, data cannot always be fenced without regard to system effects. The primary reference does not address any solution for that problem. Neither does the primary discuss sending any calibration patterns sent on the interface.

Nuckolls on the other hand stops all clocks, and does not deal with a running SMP computer system that is quiesced while a calibration is done. While the Nuckolls system is stopped it does nothing. The claimed invention does calibration of the data interface during the quiescent state.



There is nothing in the references that even suggests this should be done, let alone teach how to do it

It is believed that this application now stands in condition for allowance. A notice of allowance is now respectfully requested.

Respectfully Submitted,

For the Inventor(s):

By

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Lynn L. Augspurger", written over a horizontal line.

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